

**MIDDLE ATLANTIC  
Region 1  
HHS-N-276-2011-00003-C  
Value of Library and Information Services in Patient Care  
Study Analysis and Data Archiving  
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## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of the project is to conduct additional analyses and dissemination activities related to the "Value of Library and Information Services in Patient Care Study" conducted by NN/LM MAR. The additional research activities include further analysis of survey and interview data, preparation of papers and draft articles for submission to peer reviewed publications and archiving of the research data.

The target population for the Value Study was physicians, nurses and residents in 56 library sites serving 118 hospitals. The study is a replication of an earlier landmark study on the value and impact of health library and information services known as the Rochester Study (1992).

The study was a joint project of NN/LM MAR and UNC Chapel Hill where the research was conducted. The Study Planning Group consisted of practitioners and staff from NN/LM MAR and UNC researchers.

The project's major accomplishments were to gather and share research evidence about the value of library and information services and their impact on patient care outcomes. The results are useful to library and information professionals who need to demonstrate their value and to health care professionals and administrators who have an interest in promoting evidence-based practice.

The purpose of this subcontract was to provide support for additional analysis of the data and dissemination of the study results. The activities for Year 1 included preparation of a draft journal article on the results of the study, preparation of a paper and poster for MLA 2012, a presentation to the NLM Board of Regents on May 8, 2012, and planning for additional analysis and peer-reviewed publications.

## **Minority Populations Served**

African Americans: No  
American Indians/Alaska Natives: No  
Asian Americans: No  
Hispanics/Latinos: No  
Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders: No  
Other: No

## **Approaches and Interventions Used**

The goals of the value study were to gather data about the value and impact of library and information services and to share the results with the health care community. The study used a web-based survey and interviews with physicians, nurses and residents. All members of the Study Planning Group and the UNC Research team contributed to the study. Members of the NN/LM staff also supported the study.

The summary results and other details of study may be found at <http://nnlm.gov/mar/about/value.html>.

## **Evaluation Activities**

The subcontract goals and objectives were met with the deliverables submitted. Contact has been continued between the researchers, NN/LM MAR staff and the Study Planning Group to ensure that goals and objectives are met.

## **Problems or Barriers Encountered**

The researchers who are conducting the additional analysis and writing tasks received excellent support from the Study Planning Group and NN/LM MAR staff. Delays were encountered in processing the contracts through the University of Pittsburgh and the University of North Carolina; however all deliverables for year 1 were submitted by April 30, 2012.

## **Continuation Plans**

The researchers, NN/LM MAR staff and the Study Planning Group will continue to consult as the remaining deliverables are prepared. Consultation is taking place by email, conference call and phone calls. Reports of additional analysis are being added to the study website as prepared unless they interfere with submission of specific articles to peer reviewed journals.

An summary article has been submitted to JMLA. Additional analyses and articles are planned for health administration and nursing journals. Additional specialized reports by region will be submitted for inclusion in the website. The researchers will also prepare the data for archiving by deidentifying the dataset and submitting it to the Dataverse Social Science Data Archive at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Odum Institute of Social Science Research.

## **Impact**

The project is important because it provides up-to-date data on the value of library and information services in patient care. It will benefit health sciences librarians large and small as they make an effective case for the value of their services and its impact on patient care.

We have already been consulted by the VA hospitals who are interested in replicating the study and by the Canadian Health Libraries Association. Libraries that were not able to participate in the study have also shown an interest in replicating the study in their own institution.

We will continue to present on the sub-analysis and publish in non-library journals to share the results with health professionals and administrators.



## **Lessons Learned**

This project was a major undertaking since it involved so many institutions and so many health professional respondents (n=16,122). The study manual prepared for the participating libraries and the survey will be made available on the study website for future replication.

## **Other**

The URL for the project website with additional materials is  
<http://nnlm.gov/mar/about/value.html>.

**Attachment 1: AR summary data: Subcontractor activities**